

Torrance, California
December 28, 1948

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, December 28, 1948, at 7:59 p.m.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. Absent: Councilmen: None.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Jackson moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held December 14, 1948 be approved as written. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

At 8:00 p.m. Mayor Sherfey announced that the time had arrived for opening bids for the Improvement of Border Avenue between Torrance Boulevard and Plaza del Amo.

Clerk Bartlett advised that two bids have been received which he opened and read as follows:

<u>BIDDER</u>	<u>TOTAL BID</u>
Griffith Company 1060 South Broadway Los Angeles 15, Calif.	\$ 14,157.00

A Bidder's Bond accompanied the bid.

Warren Southwest, Inc. P.O. Box 419 Torrance, Calif.	\$ 14,190.00
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A Bidder's Bond accompanied the bid.

Councilman Drale moved that Griffith Company, having submitted the lowest bid, be awarded contract for the Improvement of Border Avenue between Torrance Boulevard and Plaza del Amo, and that the Bidder's Bond attached to the rejected bid be returned. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey announced that this is the time for a Public Hearing on Case No. 145, Petition of Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company for a Change of Zone affecting a portion of Lot 8, Tract No. 7873 and a part of the Santa Fe Railway Company's right-of-way immediately adjacent thereto. Petitioner requests that the zone be changed from an A-1 (Light Agricultural) to an M-2 (Heavy Manufacturing), as the land is being sold to the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company to be used by the purchaser in its paint manufacturing operations.

Clerk Bartlett advised that no written protests have been received.

City Engineer Stevens read the Notice of the Hearing and stated that no written protests have been received.

Mayor Sherfey called for oral protests.

There being no protests, either written or oral, Councilman Powell moved that the Petition of Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company for a Change of Zone, Case No. 145, be granted, as recommended by the Planning Commission. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote; AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

A communication from H. J. Sheffield, Director of Student Personnel, El Camino College, was read expressing their appreciation for the use of the City's baseball facilities during their 1948 football season and for the courteous and efficient assistance with their problems. Matter of record.

Clerk Bartlett presented for final reading and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 445

AN ORDINANCE TO BE KNOWN AS THE UNIFORM PLUMBING CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE; CREATING THE OFFICE OF PLUMBING INSPECTOR, PRESCRIBING HIS DUTIES AND AUTHORITY; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR THE INSTALLATION OR ALTERATION OF PLUMBING, GAS AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS; DEFINING CERTAIN TERMS; ESTABLISHING MINIMUM REGULATIONS FOR THE INSTALLATION, ALTERATION OR REPAIR OF PLUMBING, GAS AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS AND THE INSPECTION THEREOF; PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR ITS VIOLATION AND REPEALING ALL OTHER ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT THEREWITH AND ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THAT CERTAIN PRINTED PLUMBING CODE PRINTED IN BOOK FORM ENTITLED "UNIFORM PLUMBING CODE", PUBLISHED BY THE WESTERN PLUMBING OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION, THREE COPIES OF WHICH ARE ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK FOR USE AND EXAMINATION BY THE PUBLIC.

Councilman Drale moved that further reading of Ordinance No. 445 be dispensed with. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Drale moved that Ordinance No. 445 be adopted for final reading. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented for final reading and read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 444

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REGULATING THE OPERATION AND CONTROL OF STEAM, ELECTRIC, DIESEL, GASOLINE, COMPRESSED AIR OR INTERURBAN RAILROAD CARS OR TRAINS OR OTHER ROLLING EQUIPMENT AND THE PROPPELLING THEREOF UPON, ALONG, UNDER, OVER, OR ON A LEVEL WITH OR ACROSS ANY STREET OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DURING CERTAIN PERIODS OF TIME; PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OVER, ON OR ACROSS CERTAIN STREETS WITHOUT A FLAGMAN; REGULATING THE SPEED OF STEAM, ELECTRIC, DIESEL, GASOLINE, COMPRESSED AIR, OR INTERURBAN PROPELLED RAILROAD CARS, TRAINS OR OTHER ROLLING EQUIPMENT (EXCEPT AUTOMOBILES); FIXING A

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TIME THAT ANY TRAIN OR TRAIN OF CARS MAY REMAIN STANDING ON ANY STREET IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; PROVIDING FOR A FLAGMAN, THE CARRYING OF LIGHT, PRECEDING SUCH TRAIN OR TRAINS; AND THE PAVING AND KEEPING IN REPAIR AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRACKS OR ROADBED OF SUCH TRACKS; THE MANNER AND METHOD AND MATERIALS USED IN THE PAVING OR CONSTRUCTION OF RAILROAD TRACKS AND THE TERRITORY CONTIGUOUS THERE-TO; PROHIBITING THE OPERATION AT ANY TIME OF CERTAIN RAILROAD ENGINES OR RAILROAD CARS OR EQUIPMENT USING A MOTOR FUEL FOR SUCH PROPULSION; FOR PLANS AND CROSS SECTIONS FOR STREET RAILROAD TRACK CONSTRUCTION; FOR THE PROTECTION OF RESIDENCES BEING IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO MADRID AVENUE; AND FIXING A PENALTY FOR A VIOLATION OF PROVISIONS THEREOF.

Mayor Sherfey explained that it was agreed among the Council and representatives of the Santa Fe Railway Company to hold the ordinance in abeyance for a period of sixty days.

Mrs. Young objected to the 60 days' delay saying there was no notice to the effect that the ordinance was to be held in abeyance. She pointed out that the Santa Fe had already been granted a sixty day delay, and urged the adoption of the ordinance.

Mayor Sherfey reported that at a meeting between the Council and officials of the railway company, the matter was thoroughly discussed and it was believed that something could be done in this sixty days' interval to abate the nuisance; for this reason the Council granted the delay, and if nothing is accomplished, the Council is prepared to pass the ordinance. The Mayor also reported that the Council had informed the Santa Fe Railway Company what they would have to do if the ordinance is not to be adopted.

Councilman Powell stated that prior to the city election he made no promise that he would get rid of the railroad, but he did say he was in sympathy with the people living near the railroad and that he did not believe Madrid Avenue is the place for a railroad. He said that at the meeting just referred to there were several representatives from the Santa Fe Railway Company who discussed the ordinance with the City Attorney, also each councilman gave his views of the railroad situation. He stated that they discussed possible ways and means of correcting these conditions, and the question of the continuance of the ordinance was also discussed.

Councilman Powell then moved that action on Ordinance No. 444 be delayed for a period of sixty days.

Councilman Powell said this is a case of certain restrictive adjustments that can be made. He advised that a great deal more than was in the ordinance was discussed which was noted by the City Attorney. He was confident that the delay of sixty days will accomplish more than is covered by the ordinance, and expressed the hope that the people will support the Council in this action.

Councilman Drale stated that in two other cases an extension of sixty days has been granted, and as a precedent has been set, the Council should extend the same courtesy to other groups.

Mrs. Brown and Mr. Elder objected to the delay and urged the passage of the ordinance.

Councilman Drale seconded Councilman Powell's motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication from Mrs. Margaret Fordice, City Treasurer, was read requesting the Council to authorize the following fund transfers:

From Retirement Fund to General Fund (Partial return of advance by General Fund)	\$6000.00
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From Motor Vehicle License Fund to General Fund (to reimburse General Fund for advances for traffic expense)	4233.05
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From General Fund to Promotion Fund \$5000.00
 (To replenish Promotion Fund for expenditures
 for Music, League expenses, Christmas, etc.)

Councilman Jackson moved that the Council concur in the recommendation of the City Treasurer. Councilman Haggard seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey.
 NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication from City Engineer Stevens was read submitting the following recommendations for the Council's consideration and approval:

PERSONNEL:

1. That Marshall Chamberlain, having satisfactorily served his probationary period as Bus Superintendent, be appointed in a permanent status effective January 1, 1949, at his present compensation.
2. That the compensation of Paul Slonecker be increased in the amount of \$45.00 per month, effective January 1, 1949.
3. That Merlin R. Cook be employed as an Automotive Mechanic, effective December 16, 1948, at a compensation of \$290.00 per month, with his seniority status retained.

APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the payment of fire insurance premiums on policy covering buildings at the Municipal Airport, the sum of \$786.60. This policy will be included in bids for insurance to expire on a December 31st. (From Airport Funds)
2. For payment of annual service fees for Civil Service Assembly, the sum of \$50.00.
3. For the purchase of sign posts and sign materials, the sum of \$105.36 plus tax.
4. For the purchase of masks and numerals for marking City buses, the sum of \$166.50 plus tax.
5. For refund to International Derrick and Equipment Company for over-payment of City Sales Tax, the sum of \$410.63.
6. For refund to John P. Gardner for deposit on airport lease, the sum of \$15.00. Lease not executed. (From Airport Funds)
7. For the purchase of road maintenance materials, the sum of \$300.00.
8. For the purchase of janitorial supplies, the sum of \$634.94.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. That the City enter into an agreement with the Pacific Electric Railway Company for improving crossing at 223rd Street and Ferro Carril Ave.,

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and that the Mayor be authorized to sign the agreement. Estimated cost --- \$1,085.00.
(From County Gas Tax Funds)

2. That the Mayor be authorized to sign the agreement with the Department of Commerce for a Special Census.
3. That the City of Torrance enter into an agreement with the Torrance Unified School District for jointly providing a Recreational Program, for the period January 1, 1949 to June 30, 1949, and that the Mayor be authorized to sign the agreement for the City.
4. That the City Attorney be authorized to sign the necessary papers and appear in court if necessary to represent the City in the suit of Torrance National Bank and Other Banks v. The County of Los Angeles.
5. That the bid of the Ace Painting and Sandblasting Company for painting public buildings be accepted and that all other bids be rejected.
6. That the City Clerk be authorized to obtain title to portions of Lots 2 and 4, Block 125, Tract No. 2807, said lots soon to be offered for sale for delinquent taxes.
7. That the installation of a fire hydrant be authorized at the corner of Ocean Avenue and Newton Street, in accordance with the recommendation of the Fire Chief.

Councilman Drale moved that the Council concur in the recommendations submitted by City Engineer Stevens. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1948

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING FIRST SUP-
PLEMENTAL MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR
EXPENDITURE OF $\frac{1}{4}$ CENT GAS TAX ALLO-
CATED FOR STATE HIGHWAYS.

Councilman Jackson moved that Resolution No. 1948 be adopted. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey announced that before proceeding with oral communications, the Council will render its decision in the matter of the appeal from the decision of the Planning Commission granting Zoning Variance for cemetery purposes, Case No. 149.

Councilman Powell moved that this Council grant the variance as requested. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Haggard. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

In regard to the Council's vote on the Zoning Variance for a cemetery, Judge Shidler stated that it now becomes important how the Council words its approval of the Planning Commission's act. The Commission itself, he said, has made no ruling except to grant a variance request, so the vote should be very carefully worded so that the future of Crenshaw Boulevard be protected.

Mayor Sherfey assured him that this matter has been taken care of.

Judge Shidler inquired if the record of the hearing was taken phonographically.

Clerk Bartlett replied it was not. Judge Shidler stated he represents the appellants and asked if they are mentioned in the record.

Clerk Bartlett replied in the affirmative.

Mr. Loker, a resident of Rolling Hills objected to the granting of the variance because he believed a cemetery in close proximity to his property, of which he owns some sixty acres, would lower its value. Since he doubted that there is any recourse, he appealed to the Council, when granting the permit for a cemetery, that they insist on certain prohibitive regulations so that the cemetery will be as much of a beauty spot and as clean as possible.

Commander Mason, representing the Hollywood Riviera Home-owners Association, questioned the policy of the Engineering Department issuing permits for the building of homes in an area where there is no storm drain, referring to a specific condition existing in Hollywood Riviera. He said the people applying for building permits are not aware of this condition and should be stopped from building in a dry lake.

City Engineer Stevens agreed that such a situation exists but is no worse now than since the development of the property. He remarked that if Mr. Mason had informed the Engineering Department of the facts, they could have advised the applicants to stop building in a natural sump. Mr. Stevens also said that his Department is considering draining the water into another sump.

After further discussion, Councilman Powell moved that the City Engineer and the City Attorney make a study of the drainage problem and the legality of issuing building permits for this area. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Jackson moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Drale seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Drale, Haggard, Jackson, Powell and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 8:50 p.m., upon motion of Councilman Drale, seconded by Councilman Jackson, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

A. H. Bartlett

CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

J. H. Sherfey Jr.
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE